One location each at Dombivli and Ulhasnagar have been commissioned out of above 9 advertised.

(c) and (d) In addition to the LPG distributorships pending from previous Marketing Plans, 69 LPG distributorships have been planned for the State of Maharashtra in the Marketing Plan for the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. Oil Selection Board for Maharashtra has started functioning which will finalise selections in a phased manner.

Setting up of Gas based Thermal Power Projects at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh

1886. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted proposals for setting up gas-based Thermal Power Projects at Kakinada, Vijjeswaram Stage-II, Amalapuram and Jagurupadu Phase-II respectively; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay in granting gas allocation for each of these four gas-based Power Projects respectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gas has been allotted for two power stations in the Krishna-Godavari basin which are now being set up with private investment. In view of allocation already made within the availability of gas, no further allocations are feasible.

Vacancies in Group 'D' posts in Indian Oil Corporation

1887. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacancies in Group 'D' posts in the reserved category of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been lying vacant in the Indian Oil Corporation in its Delhi/ New Delhi Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps being taken to fill up the vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. Only two vacancies for SC/ST exist.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Setting up of Oil Refinery at Pondicherry

1888. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total capacity of natural gas available in Narimanam in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the capacity of natural gas found in Pondicherry State;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up an oil refinery at Pondicherry; and

(d) if so, what is the capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) According to estimates made by ONGC as on January, 1992, the maximum production potential of the Narimanam field in Tamil Nadu is 0.12 MMSCMD.

(b) No commercial discovery of gas has so far been made in Pondicherry.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

LPG Connections in Tamil Nadu

1889. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the LPG connections are to be increased this year;

(b) what are the norms followed for allotment of agency in LPG ;

(c) what is the total number of LPG connections in Tamil Nadu;

(d) what is the total number of LPG connections in Waiting Lists; and

(e) are they likely to be cleared this year; and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the existing policy, LPG facility is being provided in all areas of the country, under Marketing Plans, covering places with a population of 20,000 and above offering viable distributorships and subject to overall availability of the product, in a phased manner. Allotment of LPG distributorships is made through prescribed procedure of selection by Oil Selection Boards.

(c) Approximately 15.45 lakhs as on 1-1-1993.

(d) The number of potential LPG customers on the waiting lists maintained by the distributors in Tamil Nadu is about 9.53 lakhs as on 1-1-1993.

(e) Efforts are being made to release maximum possible number of new connections subject to the availability of the product.

Request from the GEB for Gas Supply to Power Station

1890. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has received any request from the Gujarat Electricity Board for the resumption of gas supply for its 135 MW gas-based power station;

(b) if so, what are the details of the request made by Gujarat Electricity Board;

(c) what is the decision taken by Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the matter; and

(d) by when the gas supply is likely to be resumed to Gujarat Electricity Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Gujarat Electricity Board had requested for resumption of supply of gas to the Uttran Power Station which had been interrupted as a result of non-payment of dues to ONGC.

(c) Gas supplies have since been resumed on part payment by GEB of ONGC's dues.

(d) Does not arise.

Clearance of Natural Gas Projects of Tripura

1891. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Natural Gas Projects for Tripura cleared so far;

(b) whether these will be set up in Public Sector or Private Sector;

(c) what progress has been made in getting the clearance to set up the industries; and

(d) by when the gas based industries are likely to come up there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) to (d) Approximately 1.75 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to various consumers in Tripura, including some power stations in the public sector, a CNG Project in the public sector, for domestic supply and some industries in the private sector.

Allotment of Gas to Power Projects in Gujarat

1892. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has requested to allocate natural gas for power projects to the Centre;

(b) if so, what is the latest position of the natural gas allotted for the power projects in Gujarat;

(c) what is the quantum of gas allocated for industries purpose;

(d) what is the quantum of natural gas available on the offshore gas fields; and